

## Fiction

### Charging the Enemy

By MARTHA M'C-WILLIAMS.

Old Gib Ezell went swinging and stumping upon his crutches down the street and up the steps of his store. It was the biggest store in town, though not the smartest. Joe Beeman, who had opened up the spring before, just across the street, was running old Gib hard in groceries and hardware and leaving him out of sight when it came to knickknacks or dry goods pure and simple.

A man who half knew looked after old Gib, then across at the sign of his young rival, and murmured half to himself, "What a pity!" Another man who knew also looked, listened to the exclamation and answered it, sticking out his chin as he spoke, "Better say, 'What a shame!'"

"What's a shame, doc?" a third said, coming up behind them. Dr. Waters smiled half grimly. "I'm not quite sure. It seems to be the hitch in the course of a true love," he answered.

Lew Bayne, the man who had spoken first, shook his head energetically. "I meant that poor old fellow's legs," he said. "I suppose, doc, it's certain he'll never walk again."

"Now you've got me," the doctor protested. "I'd risk my professional reputation that fall he got on the sleety pavement did no worse harm to his shrunken shanks than bark them up pretty generally. There were bruises, of course, and on the shoulder and side as well. I told him he'd be out and about in plenty of time for the Christmas trade, but from the first he stood me up and down that he'd never take another steady step, and so far, I'm bound to admit, he was right. There's nothing on earth the matter with his legs—nothing at least that I or the other doctors can see. Against that there is the fact that the minute he tries to stand on them they do the joint rule act—double under him as though they hadn't strength to bear up a spider. The trouble must lie in the nerves. If that's what you mean, I agree with you that it's a pity. I thought you had reference to the trick he's played on Joe Beeman."

"What is it?" asked Merton, the third of the group. "You know I've been away six months. Tell me all about it."

"Not much to tell," Dr. Waters said. "You know Florrie Ezell?"

"I ought to, considering she sent me away," Merton broke in ruefully. "You don't mean Joe is gone on her like the rest of us? I thought—"

"You've hit it," the doctor said. "Joe did stand out mighty well against the prevailing infection, but a man never knows what's coming to him until it hits him square in the face."

"Lord! To think of Joe, the 'bomproof' we called him!" Merton chuckled. "How did it happen? Tell me all about it."

Merton, a newly evolved drummer, had given what he would have called "a comprehensive order." Dr. Waters also chuckled as he answered, nodding his head by way of emphasizing his points. "Well, you see, it's this way: The hour struck for Joe when he saw Florrie Ezell swirling around, a blue marietta angel, in a waltz with Bob Patton at the Patton's party. Florrie's a pretty girl anyway you see her. That night she was particularly fetching. But that wasn't the thing. I insist Joe's time had come. He knew it. Seen as the waltz was over he froze to Florrie—didn't get a yard away from her all the evening."

"It was a freezing time, as I remember," Lew Bayne interrupted, with a laugh—"Indian summer up to dusk, then a cold rain that turned to sleet in short order. Say, didn't old Gib get his fall that very night?"

"I'm coming to that if you'll wait," the doctor ran on. "I tell you that was a sleet to remember. Joe, of course, wouldn't let Florrie walk home, though the Ezell house is only six blocks from the Patton's. No, sir! He telephoned for the finest rig at the river stable and bundled all that blue marietta in it as snug as you please. I heard Florrie protesting that she ought really to wait for papa, but we all persuaded her papa wouldn't think of risking himself upon pavement like glass. We ought to have known better. Old Gib always does the thing that any other man would let alone."

"Bet a hat he came," Merton said, chuckling more than ever.

"You win—from yourself," Dr. Waters answered. "He came, he didn't see his daughter, he went back swearing like a trooper, though he is a deacon, and he fell right before Master Joe's fine rig, coming back from leaving Miss Florrie safe at the gate. Of course Joe picked him up and carried him home. Equally, of course, old Gib hates him for doing it. By the time I got to him next morning he was fully persuaded Joe was at the bottom of his fall, with Florrie as accessory; said they ran away and left him, hoping he'd break his neck, so Joe could have both his daughter and his store. You know he didn't take overkindly to competition anyway."

"That he didn't! Why, he even wrote to our credit man to keep a peeled eye on Joe," Merton interrupted.

"That's like him," Dr. Waters said. "I tell you, boys, nature must work along a certain line of compensation. I'm sure she slapped into old Gib all the small meannesses due to two generations of Ezells—it may even be

three. His father was a fine man, and his daughter is just as good a woman as ever was made."

"About Joe, now?" Merton queried. Dr. Waters frowned.

"Joe courted Florrie with such a rush that in a week they were engaged. Then he went right in to old Gib and had it out with him; told him all about himself and his business, in and out, up and down, but the substance of it was he wanted Florrie for his wife and would do whatever old Gib said if only he could get her. And then the old crocodile pretended to cry; said Florrie was all he had to live for; he hoped Joe wouldn't press him for an answer then, nor, indeed, talk of an engagement until he was either dead or himself again. You know how soft hearted old Joe is and how he hangs on to his word once he passes it. Of course he promised, never mistaking the old wretch was playing him. So there you are! Florrie's warring and losing color because Joe only speaks when they pass by, but doesn't come to the house. Joe's about desperate, and old Gib is fattening and getting ten years younger—on spite and crutches. What the end is to be nobody can guess."

"Can old Gib be shamming?" Merton asked. Dr. Waters shook his head. "I thought so at first," he said. "But if he is it beats anything in the books. There's certainly nothing wrong with his legs, except that they're a bit flabby. It's equally as certain he can't walk on them. I think sometimes he has hypnotized himself. If it was just deceit and what I call cussedness, I would have been able before this to take him off his guard."

"Well, I can at least go over and condole with Joe," Merton said, stepping across the street. "And maybe sympathy will be worth an order," he called back over his shoulder as he struck the store steps.

Although it was late March it was still nipping cold. A red fire roared in the base burner inside old Gib's store. Old Gib himself sat close beside it, his eye ranging all the miscellaneous merchandise which crowded shelves and floor. His three clerks had been on the jump all morning, but toward noon there came a lull. He was about to send two of them off to dinner when the door opened wide and Merton came through, with Joe Beeman in his wake and Dr. Waters and Lew Bayne marching solemnly behind. Joe's face was white, his eyes brilliant, his figure tense in every line. Indeed, he looked desperate, and his voice rang hard as he said, stopping short three feet away:

"Mr. Ezell, I have come to ask you, here in the presence of these witnesses, to release me from my promise. You know well how it was given—with a total misapprehension of the truth."

"You mean you want to take my daughter as well as my trade and leave me, a cripple, to starve!" old Gib roared.

Joe set his teeth. "I mean nothing of the sort!" he said. "Give me your daughter and our home shall be yours. I will serve and care for you as I would for my own father."

"You won't get the chance," old Gib sneered.

Joe half turned to his friends and whispered sepulchrally: "Go away! Quick!"

"Going to murder me, hey?" old Gib sniffed.

Joe stood very straight. The others had slunk toward the door, with the awed clerks huddling after. They heard Joe shout:

"It is not murder! I shall give my life to free Florrie from your intolerable tyranny!"

Then they saw him fling wide the stove door and dash into it what seemed like several pounds of gunpowder.

Old Gib saw it too. With one wild, whooping yell he leaped from his chair regardless of crutches, of everything but flight, rushed madly for the door, darted through it and did not pause until he came panting and trembling to his own gate. As he clung there the others overtook him, as breathless as himself betwixt running and laughing.

Dr. Waters made a low bow. "If I had thought three pounds of black sand would be so effectual I would have had you well long ago," he said.

Merton dragged Joe forward. "If you want to kick anybody, kick me," he said to old Gib. "I put this lad," patting Joe's shoulder, "up to playing you that trick."

"Humph! I knew he didn't have the brains for it himself," old Gib snorted. But, though he had found his legs, he was none the less old Gib. The fact was proved by his letting Joe and Florrie marry almost out of hand and presenting them with both his store and his blessing.

**Water Vapor on Mars.**  
The much debated question of the existence of water vapor in the atmosphere of Mars appears to have been settled in the affirmative by the observations of V. M. Slipher, corroborated by those of Dr. F. W. Very, who estimates that Mars has in its atmosphere about 75 per cent more water vapor than exists in the air over Flagstaff, Ariz., in the month of January. Mr. Slipher concludes that these observations favor the view that the white caps about Mars' poles are composed of snow rather than of hoarfrost. The prevalent conditions on Mars, says Dr. Very, are those of a mild but desert climate, such as Professor Percival Lowell has asserted exists there.

**A Simpler Way.**  
"Of course she'll break his will?"  
"No. He didn't make any."  
"What?"  
"That's right. She got all the stuff away from him before he died."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## Announcements.

**COUNCILMAN.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**JOHN B. GALBREATH**  
as a candidate for Councilman in the Second Ward of the City of Hopkinsville, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

**FOR COUNCILMAN.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**HARRY A. KEACH**  
as a candidate for the nomination as Councilman from Seventh Ward, subject to the action of the Democratic party. Primary June 21.

We are authorized to announce  
**GEO. E. RANDLE**  
as a candidate for Councilman from the Sixth ward subject to the action of the Democratic Primary June 21.

**COUNCILMAN.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**A. W. WOOD**  
as a candidate for City Councilman in the Fourth Ward, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

**FOR MAGISTRATE.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**GEO. W. MCKNIGHT**  
as a candidate for Magistrate in the Fifth magisterial district (Howell and Lafayette) subject to the action of the Democratic party.

**SHERIFF.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**L. R. DAVIS**  
as a candidate for sheriff of Christian county, subject to the action of the Republican party.

**CIRCUIT CLERK.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**C. R. CLARK**  
as a candidate for circuit court clerk of Christian county subject to the action of the Republican party.

**FOR JAILER.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**JOE C. JOHNSON**  
as a candidate for jailer of Christian county, subject to the action of the Republican party.

We are authorized to announce  
**W. R. WICKS**  
as a candidate for County Court Clerk of Christian county, subject to the action of the Republican party.

**COUNTY JUDGE.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**CHARLES O. PROWSE**  
as a candidate for county judge of Christian County, subject to the action of the Republican party.

**FOR REPRESENTATIVE.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**HIRAM BROWN**  
as a candidate for the Legislature, subject to the action of the Republican party.

**SUPERINTENDENT OF COUNTY SCHOOLS.**  
We are authorized to announce  
**PROF. W. E. GRAY**  
as a candidate for re-election to the office of Superintendent of County schools of Christian county, subject to the action of the Republican party.

## CARLSBAD OF AMERICA

French Lick and West Baden Springs, Ind.

Now reached by direct line of the  
**Southern Railway.**

Leave Evansville 7:35 a.m. 1:50 p.m. 6:00 p.m.  
" Rockport 7:30 a.m.  
" Cannelton 7:15 a.m.  
" Tell City 7:25 a.m.  
" Troy 7:35 a.m.  
Arrive French Lick 10:25 a.m. 4:50 p.m. 9:05 p.m.  
Arrive West Baden 10:30 a.m. 4:55 p.m. 9:10 p.m.

### ROUND TRIP RATES—LIMIT 30 DAYS

Evansville to French Lick \$3.16  
" to West Baden 3.20  
Rockport to French Lick 2.52  
" to West Baden 2.56  
Cannelton to French Lick 2.72  
" to West Baden 2.76  
Tell City to French Lick 2.60  
" to West Baden 2.64  
Troy to French Lick 2.44  
" to West Baden 2.48  
J. C. BEAM, JR., A. G. P. A.  
St. Louis, Mo.  
E. D. STRATTON, P. A.,  
Evansville, Ind.

## L. & N.

### TIME TABLE.

#### TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 52—St. Louis Express, 10:05 a. m.  
No. 54—St. L. Fast Mail, 10:23 p. m.  
No. 92—C. & St. L. Lim., 6:06 a. m.  
No. 56—Hopkinsville Ac. 8:55 p. m.  
No. 94.—Dixie Flyer, 5:53 p. m.

#### TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

No. 51—St. L. Express 5:32 p. m.  
No. 53—St. L. Fast Mail 5:35 a. m.  
No. 93—C. & N. O. Lim. 11:50 p. m.  
No. 55—Hopkinsville Ac. 7:05 a. m.  
No. 95.—Dixie Flyer, 9:43 a. m.  
No. 53 and 55 connect at St. Louis and other points west.  
No. 51 connects at Gutrie for Memphis, L. n. p. m. as far south as Erie and for Louisville, Cincinnati and the East.  
No. 53 and 55 make direct connection at Gutrie for Louisville, Cincinnati and all points north and east thereof. No. 53 and 55 also connect for Memphis and way points.  
No. 92 runs through to Chicago and will not carry passengers to point South of Evansville. Also carries through sleepers to St. Louis.  
No. 93, through sleepers to Atlanta, Macon, Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Tampa, Fla. A so Pullman sleepers to New Orleans. Connections at Gutrie for points East and West. No. 93 will not carry local passengers for points North of Nashville Tenn.

J. C. HOOE, Agt.

### Ham Sacks Here.

Big shipment of ham sacks, two sizes, just received and for sale at this office.

## Sidewalks

WE have been laying Concrete Sidewalks in Hopkinsville for four years. Our name plate in your work is a guarantee. The largest and most important jobs in Hopkinsville have been done by us.

**THERE IS A REASON FOR THIS**  
WHEN you have work to do drop us a card or phone us and our representative will call on you.  
Our Prices Always the Lowest  
Consistent With Best Quality.

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Incorporated  
Phone 1208—Office Cooper Bldg.  
"WE PAVE THE WAY."

## We Ask You

to take Cardui, for your female troubles, because we are sure it will help you. Remember that this great female remedy—

## WINE OF CARDUI

has brought relief to thousands of other sick women, so why not to you? For headache, backache, periodical pains, female weakness, many have said it is "the best medicine to take." Try it!  
**Sold in This City** **RS**

# PETRE & CO.

## FINE TAILORING

ROOM 4, HOTEL LATHAM.

Suits to Order, - - \$20.00 and up  
Overcoats, - - - \$20.00 and up  
Pants, - - - - \$ 7.50 and up

Place orders now for spring deliveries and avoid the rush.

## When You Visit Nashville

STOP AT

## THE NEW CENTRAL HOTEL

The most centrally located hotel in the city; on Sixth Ave., North, near corner of Church street. All cars from Union station pass within two doors of the house. Delightful Rooms, Splendid Table and all the comforts of home. No better place for shoppers. Fine double rooms for convention parties. Within 2 blocks of capitol.

RATES REASONABLE.

Special Rates to Parties of Four or More.

# Own Your Own Home And Farm!

Now is the time to buy real estate in  
Hopkinsville and Christian county.

With the high prices of WHEAT, CORN, TOBACCO, CATTLE and HOGS, in fact, everything a farmer raises, the price of land is sure to advance, so why not invest in a good farm before the RAISE COMES.

Nothing is safer than a GOOD LAND INVESTMENT in Christian county, and we are in a position to sell you the farm and furnish you the money to help pay for it.

We also have some very desirable homes and vacant lots for sale at prices that will interest you.

Below we submit some of the bargains, we have to offer YOU.

310 acres near Pee Dee, six-room house, two barns, stable and cabin, 10 acres of good timber, and a nice young orchard, price \$25.00 per acre.

115 acres seven miles from Hopkinsville on Bradshaw pike, 4 room cottage, barn and stable, two cabins, nine acres in timber, land all first-class, price \$40.00 per acre.

230 acres just outside of Pembroke, 6-room house, and all other necessary outbuildings, most of the land in clover and timothy; all in a very high state of cultivation, price \$50.00 per acre.

225 acres near Howell, Ky., large 7-room house, with good barn and stable, and all out buildings in good repair, well watered, and everything up in good shape, price \$40.00 per acre.

225 acres, near Herndon, Ky., 6-room house, 2 tobacco barns, one cabin, stable, small orchard, price \$5,250.00.

500 acres, 10 miles south of Hopkinsville, Clarksburg pike, 8-room house, 4 tobacco barns, one stable, one hay barn, 8 cabins, windmill, and all improvements right up-to-date, 40 acres of fine timber, no better farm anywhere. Price per acre \$60.

200 acres, near Julien, Ky., small cottage, stable, cabins, has spring branch running through farm, a

cheap place at the price, \$40.00.

316 acres, 12 miles south of Hopkinsville, Ky., 6-room house, good barns, and good stable, and all other improvements necessary, 40 acres of good timber; this place is well watered, and a splendid tract of land, price \$35.00 per acre.

80 acres, 4 miles north of town on the Greenville road, price \$1,000.00.

225 acres, 5 miles east of town on the Russellville pike, large modern house of 11 rooms, with all conveniences, out buildings all in first-class condition, 30 acres of splendid timber, several fine springs, and one of the best stock and grain farms in the county. Price \$50.00 per acre.

210 acres, 5 miles south of town, 7 room house, two good barns, stable, 3 cabins, granary and all necessary out buildings, fences in good repair, 30 acres of timber, land in high state of cultivation, price only \$35.00 per acre.

60 acres south of town, right on the pike. This is one of the choicest little homes in the county, with a brand new house, place newly fenced, well watered, and all in fine stand of grass. Price only \$3,500.00.

## CITY PROPERTY.

A splendid business and a beautiful home with it at Casky, Ky. Price \$5,000.00.

127-foot lot on Walnut street, with dwelling on one side of property, price \$3,000.00.

A new modern up-to-date house, on South Virginia street, price \$4,000.00.

One of the most attractive homes on East Ninth street, price \$4,000.00.

A house and lot on Jesup avenue, one of the most desirable corners in that part of town, price \$1,400.00.

House and lot on corner of Virginia and Sixteenth. This is one of the most attractive cottages in the city, price \$3,000.00.

House and lot on East Eighteenth, nice 5-room cottage, built only a short time, and well improved, Price \$1,800.00.

A very desirable cottage on East Seventh, price \$2,350.00.

A very choice vacant lot on McPherson avenue, right back of West Side School, price only \$250.00.

A modern and convenient 7-room cottage and out buildings, on South Campbell street, water, gas and electricity. Especially well constructed house, comparatively new. Lot 86 x 200, extending back to 35 foot street. Good value for \$3,500.00.

Desirable vacant lot in good neighborhood, on South Walnut street, corner lot, 190 feet deep, price, if sold at once, \$675.00.

# Planters Bank & Trust Co.

HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY.